GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

A B S T R A C T

Agriculture & Cooperation Department – Disciplinary Matters - Sri M.Ravi, the then Agriculture Officer (T), O/o Joint Director of Agriculture, Ananthapuramu and presently working as Asst. Director of Agriculture (R), Hindupur, Sri Satyasai District – Allegations of misappropriation of Government funds in Subsidy Sunflower Seed Distribution during 2009-10 in Anantapuramu District – Disciplinary action initiated under Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991 – Imposed the penalty of Withholding of (2) Annual Grade Increments with cumulative effect" – Appeal submitted and admitted – Reduction of the penalty to that of "Withholding of (1) Annual Grade Increment without cumulative effect" - Orders - Issued.

AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION (VIG.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No. 392 **Dated: 25/05/2023**

Read the following:

1. G.O.Ms.No.17, A & C (Vig.I) Dept., dt.10.03.2022.
2. Appeal Petition dt.30.03.2022 of Sri M.Ravi, the then Agriculture Officer (T), O/o Joint Director of Agriculture, Ananthapuramu and presently working as Asst. Director of Agriculture (R), Hindupur, Satyasai District.

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O R D E R:

In the reference 1st read above, the Government have issued orders imposing the penalty of "Withholding of (2) Annual Grade Increments with cumulative effect" against Sri M.Ravi, the then Agriculture Officer (T), O/o Joint Director of Agriculture, Ananthapuramu and presently working as Asst. Director of Agriculture (R), Hindupur, Satyasai District, under A.P. Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991, with regard to allegations of misappropriation of Government funds in Subsidy Sunflower Seed Distribution during 2009-10 in Anantapuramu District.

2. In the reference 2nd read above, Sri M.Ravi, the then Agriculture Officer (T), O/o Joint Director of Agriculture, Ananthapuramu and presently working as Asst. Director of Agriculture (R), Hindupur, Sri Satyasai District has submitted Appeal Petition to the Government stating that, the Enquiry Officer in her findings clearly mentioned that he was only a Technical Officer in the Office of the Joint Director of Agriculture, Anantapuramu and all the four irregularities were related to the Joint Director of Agriculture, Anantapuramu but not to the Agriculture Officer. Further, as mentioned by the Enquiry Officer, the file for scrutiny of the proposals of Utilization Certificate confirming the seed distribution was processed by the Junior Assistant, Senior Assistant, Superintendent and then came to his table. From his table it went to Asst. Director of Agriculture (PP) who was the seed cell in charge during that course of time. All Officials who processed the file and who confirmed the Utilization Certificate were ignored and he alone was thrown into deep trouble besides mental agony. Whatever he did, it was done as per the instructions of his superior officer and he never involved in any malpractice.

3. The Government have admitted the above Appeal Petition submitted and after careful examination of the material papers made available, it is observed that, the charged officer is only a Technical Assistant working in the O/o Joint Director of Agriculture, Ananthapuramu and is not alone responsible but all the other staff i.e., Junior Assistant, Senior Assistant, Superintendent, O/o Joint Director of Agriculture, Ananthapuramu (who were not enquired into in this case) involved are also responsible for scrutiny of the proposals of utilization certificate confirming the seed distribution and release of seed subsidy to the supplier. No financial irregularity noticed in this case and hence decided to reduce the punishment.

4. Accordingly, the Government, hereby, order for reduction of the penalty of "Withholding of (2) Annual Grade Increments with cumulative effect" in respect of Sri M.Ravi, the then Agriculture Officer (T), O/o Joint Director of Agriculture, Ananthapuramu and presently working as Asst. Director of Agriculture (R), Hindupur, Sri Satyasai District, to that of "Withholding of (1) Annual Grade Increment without cumulative effect", under Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991.

(P.T.O)

5. The Special Commissioner of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur shall take further necessary action, accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
CHIEF COMMISSIONER, RBKs &
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To:
The Special Commissioner of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur.

Copy to:
Sri M.Ravi, Assistant Director of Agriculture (R), Hindupur,
Sri Satyasai District.
(through the Commissioner of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur)
The Prl. Accountant General, A.P., Vijayawada.
The Director of Treasuries & Accounts, A.P., Mangalagiri.
The District Treasury Officer, Ananthapuramu/Sri Satyasai District.
The Joint Director of Agriculture, Ananthapuramu/Sri Satyasai District.
The District Agriculture Officer, Ananthapuramu/Sri Satyasai District.
The P.S. to Secretary, A.P. Public Service Commission, Vijayawada.
The P.S. to A.P.Vigilance Commissioner, APVC,
Block-5, First Floor, AP Secretariat Buildings, Amaravati at Velagapudi.
Sf/Sc.

// FORWARDED BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER